

### REMARKS

The claim for priority benefit is clarified and sequence identifiers are added in the specification. An original Sequence Listing is submitted for amino acid sequences in Tables 1-2. Claims 37-50 are pending. The amendments are supported by the original disclosure and, thus, no new matter has been added. If the Examiner should disagree, however, it is respectfully requested that the challenged limitation be pointed out with particularity in the next Action so support may be cited in response.

EP 0941478, which is the European counterpart of this application, is the subject of an opposition in the European Patent Office. Oral proceedings are scheduled in the near future and the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if he would like to be provided with any of submissions made by the parties. Copies of documents cited in the opposition are attached; they and other documents are listed on the Form PTO-1449.

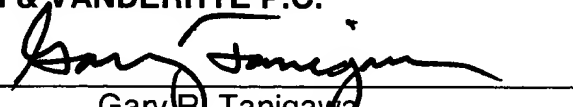
EP 01109298.8 is a divisional of the aforementioned European counterpart. Search reports for PCT/GB97/03222 and EP 01109298.8, and the Int'l Preliminary Examination Report (IPER) for the parent PCT/GB97/03222 are attached; they are listed on another Form PTO-1449. The documents cited therein were previously listed on a Form PTO-1449 (see the present IDS and that submitted on May 24, 1999).

Applicants earnestly solicit an early and favorable examination on the merits. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if any further information is required.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

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